

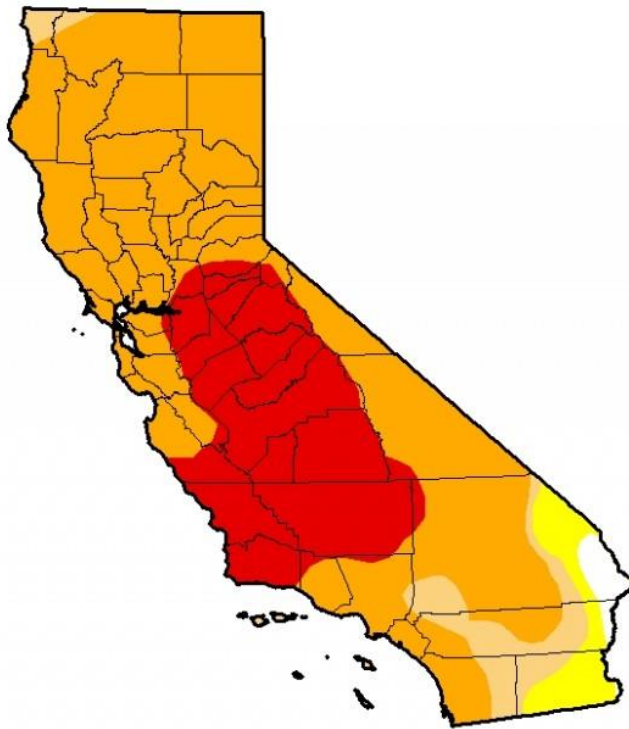
April 2014 Newsletter

U.S. Drought Monitor California

January 7, 2014

(Released Thursday, Jan. 9, 2014)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	1.43	98.57	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Last Week 12/31/2013	2.61	97.39	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
3 Months Ago 10/6/2013	2.52	97.48	95.95	84.12	11.36	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12/31/2013	2.61	97.39	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Water Year 10/1/2013	2.63	97.37	95.95	84.12	11.36	0.00
One Year Ago 1/6/2013	32.42	67.58	55.02	21.37	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought
D2 Severe Drought	

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Since returning from ADB-Bangladesh for climate change and USAID-Haiti for environmental assessment STTAs, I've been advising California organic farms and camps on water, wastewater, and environmental management. We are experiencing another serious drought. It's suggested the past 100+ years of California weather has been *non-historically* wet; it's long-term *normal* weather is more droughty than previously thought [Roth (March 5, 2014), **Troubling View From the Oasis: California's Abundance May Be a Mirage**, SFWeekly].

"Droughts and floods can significantly damage economic growth, recent research has found. A 1% increase in the area affected by drought can slow a country's gross domestic product (GDP) growth by 2.7% per year and a 1% increase in the area experiencing extreme rainfall can reduce GDP growth by 1.8%, according to the study. Investments in water security could help reduce this negative economic impact, say the researchers." [Brown, et al. (2013), **Is water security necessary? An empirical analysis of the effects of climate hazards on national-level economic growth**, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A*]

What to do? Take the lesson of the 3R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle [Popkin & Bakke (2007), **Potential for Reduction/Reuse/Recycling Wastes from Solid Waste Streams**, ACHMM Annual Meeting, DC]. Conserve, reduce demand, capture/treat/recharge/use rainwater and runoff, improve irrigation efficiency by terrace, drip, and subsurface irrigation and low-water demand crops, reuse wastewater and processing waters! I'll be discussing such at UC Davis.

Humanitarianism. I'm trying to save the lives Afghans who assisted the U.S. I'm referring Afghan U.S.-asylum seekers by referring them to my long-term pal, former State Department Consular, Thomas Hutson at CONSULTIMATE LLC.